3752
PATENT

Attorney Docket No. PAHTL.047A

Date: February 21, 2002

Page 1

In re application of : William J. Meserve, et al.
App. No. : 09/643,172
Filed : August 21, 2000
For : FIRE EXTINGUISHER WITH
MEANS FOR PREVENTING
FREEZING AT OUTLET
Examiner : Dinh Q. Nguyen
Art Unit : 3752

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Gordon H. Olson, Reg. No. 20,319

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

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The fee has been calculated as shown below:

CLAIMS AS FILED

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
Total Claims	27	27	= 0 ×	\$18	= \$0
Independent Claims	2	2	= 0 ×	\$84	= \$0
Time Extension Fee					\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0

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Applicant : William J. Meserve *et al.*

Group Art Unit 3752

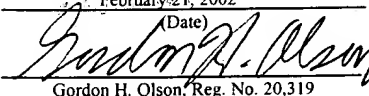
Appl. No. : 09/643,172

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For : FIRE EXTINGUISHER WITH MEANS FOR PREVENTING FREEZING AT OUTLET

February 21, 2002
(Date)


Gordon H. Olson, Reg. No. 20,319

Examiner : Dinh Q. Nguyen

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 7, 2001

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to Examiner's Office Action mailed December 7, 2001. Pursuant to the shortened statutory period of three months, response is timely filed by March 7, 2002.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Drobyshev.

Claims 1, 4, 11, and 12 stand rejected as anticipated by Drobyshev. Drobyshev is inapplicable to any claim in the instant application. Drobyshev discloses a fire extinguisher material comprising zeolite saturated with argon. This material is used in situations "in which water is not permissible," for example to extinguish burning alkali metals. In other words, Drobyshev discloses an extinguishing material for class D fires. The zeolite in Drobyshev is part of the fire extinguishing material, that is, it is discharged onto the fire. Drobyshev teaches that zeolites absorb gases at high temperatures and pressures. Consequently, the zeolite in Drobyshev